



CLAIMS

What I claim is:

1. (Currently amended)

~~The invention is a~~ **A manual apparatus for use by an operator to slice a potato into a uniformly thin continuous spiral slice, the slice for frying as a potato [[-]] chip with the apparatus requiring both hands to operate to safely cut the potato slice, with both hands being away from a sharp fixed vertical blade 1 and rotating driver teeth 16 during cutting and comprising:**

[[a]] the fixed vertical blade 1 attached to a blade support 6, the blade support 6 being attached to a base [[1]] 8, and the blade angled horizontally 20 degrees from perpendicular to the centerline of a drive spindle 2 with the blade 1 sharpened on one side for cutting;

a pilot pin 5 extending through a hole in the blade 1, the pilot pin 5 being in alignment with the drive spindle 2

centerline and secured in position by a lock nut 15, the farthest end of the pilot pin 5 being connected to the blade support 6 and the nearest end of the pilot pin 5 functioning to support and position a potato at a cutting edge of the blade 1, and with the pilot pin 5 adjusted to contact a forward end of the drive spindle 2 and prevent[[s]] driver teeth 16 from contacting the blade 1 at the end of the slice;

a drive support 7 which is attached to the base 8, serves as a means for positioning the drive spindle 2;

a means for manual cranking with a crank handle 4 on the end of a threaded, American Standard Uniform Thread Form 3/8 inch 16 threads per inch drive spindle 2, in a clockwise direction, rotating a potato for cutting;

a drive nut guide 11 with a drive nut 10 assembled to it, positions the drive nut 10 adjacent to the drive spindle 2

and applies manual pressure on the drive nut 10, engages the drive nut 10 threads to the drive spindle 2 threads through a window opening 17 in the drive support 7, causing forward motion of the rotating drive spindle 2, the drive spindle 2 being assembled internal to the drive support 7;

the driver 3 has four flat teeth 16 of 7/16 inch length and is assembled at the forward end of the drive spindle 2 and secured by a lock nut 12, the driver teeth 16 penetrate a potato and transfer the forward and rotary motion of the hand cranked drive spindle 2 to the potato thus forcing it into the cutting edge of the sharp blade 1 to produce a continuous spiral slice approximating .0625 inch thickness;

the base 8 for mounting of the blade support 6 and drive support 7 sub-assemblies utilizes four rubber support legs 9 and two metal spring-type counter stop arms 14 to

stabilize the apparatus in use on a table or counter top and during use of the apparatus the support legs 9 and counter stop arms 14 provide a means by which the apparatus remains stationary on a counter top or table with downward left hand pressure and forward right hand cranking pressure during cutting of a potato requiring significant torque to accomplish the spiral slice cut, and avoiding the use of clamps or suction cup devices for the apparatus to remain in a stationary position and additionally the counter stop arms 14 prevent the handle 4 from contacting the counter top or table on which the apparatus is positioned as it nears the end of a cut.